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Date: Thursday, September 30, 2004

To: Examiner: Minh N. TRINH Group Art Unit: 3729

Firm/Company: United States Patent and Trademark Office

Fax Number: 703-872-9306

From: Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383 Matter Number: 1710391

Serial No. U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 09/886,887 Extension: 3919

Comments:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION ATTACHED.

Robert J. Schneider

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U.S. PAT. APP. Ser. NO. 09/886,887
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1710391

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Examiner:	TRINH, Minh N.
)		
Levi J. PEREA Jr. et al.)	Group Art Unit:	3729
)		
Serial No.: 09/886,887)	Confirmation No.:	6120
)		
Filing Date: June 21, 2001)		
)		
For: HAND TOOL FOR APPLYING)		
ELECTRICAL CONNECTORS)		
)		

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FILED VIA FACSIMILE TO No. 703-872-9306

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Greetings:

This is submitted in timely response to the Office Action mailed on July 16, 2004, wherein the Examiner :

1. Rejected Claims 1-11 under Section 112 as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter.
2. Rejected Claim 1 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by Fickes, U.S. Patent No. 4,349,944.
3. Rejected Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 11 under Section 103(a) as unpatentable over Fickes.
4. Found Claims 4-5, 9 and 10 allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under Section 112 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant respectfully submits the following Amendments and Remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

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